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Baptist vols detained in Asian country

THE LAST FRONTIER (BP)
— Four Southern Baptist volunteers imprisoned in a restricted-access country in Asia emerged after two days, testifying to God's goodness and expressing an unfaltering desire to see the mes-

"We were hungry and hadn't rested. It had been about four days since we last showered," said Alexa. "I got pushed around a bit, and that's when the emotions got really high but that's also when we began to recognize that it was a spiritual battle that we were in — not a struggle against man."

Kay said it seemed almost surreal. "It started out like something out of a movie," she said. There was one dim light and a dirty one-room cell, but we were so at peace. Psalm 27:1 kept going through my mind: 'The Lord is my light and my salvation — whom shall I fear? The Lord is the stronghold of my life — of whom shall I be afraid?' Looking at our jail-

daily trekking. Any doubt soon disappeared as the group worshiped in their tight quarters.

"I've led worship in a lot of places," he said, "but this by far was the most intense. Singing the words: 'Here I am to bow down; here I am to say that You're my God' will never be the same for me again. There was so much value to the words."

The group was held for a night and a day, sitting through interrogations by several officials, who had no proof to back up their charges against the volunteers. They were given bread and water to eat.

The second night, the group was allowed out of their cell although they weren't yet released. In a courtyard in full view of their guards, the group held a covert praise time.

"We all held UNO cards for a facade, but had an awesome prayer time," said Kay. "We knew it was Sunday morning in the States and that church was starting. So we began to praise God for that, knowing people were praying for us. Then we realized it was Father's Day, so we really had a time of thanksgiving to our Father and for our earthly fathers."

Although all four were on their first overseas trip, the entire group knew going to a restricted-access country would not be easy. Yet all confessed a sense of peace through knowing their only course of action was obedience.

"I knew I was called to be on this trip," said 'Zephyr.' "I knew I couldn't run from going. If you know in your gut that God

is calling you, go for it. Don't resist. God is going to do amazing things through you. My parents and everyone else thought all along that the worst would happen. So I truly hope this is a testimony to them."

After their second night of captivity the group was released and ordered out of the country. As they were escorted across the border into the neighboring country, Kay said they felt as if they were replaying a portion of the book of Acts.

"We left there totally in an Acts 5:41 frame of mind," she said, "like when the apostles left rejoicing because they had been counted worthy of suffering disgrace for Jesus. When we crossed the border, Colvin busted out his guitar again and we sang and praised God for the entire trip."

Colvin said that although the ordeal tested them in ways they had never experienced before, not one in the group felt deterred from the task of serving God in a dangerous world. The world is a dangerous place, but the worst thing someone can do is to deny the call of God on his life, Colvin said.

"You belong to God," he explained. "The worst thing you can do is take a life that doesn't belong to you. You can meet Jesus out here."

Added Alexa: Yes it's worth it. And I want to go back. We were all broken. It was a true glimpse of God."

Editor's note: Names and locations in the story have been changed or omitted for security reasons.



CHURCH DEMOLISHED — A church on the Indonesian island of Ambon is one of many that has been destroyed as a wave of militant Islam sweeps across the country's Maluku Islands chain. Churches in majority Islamic and communist countries in Asia and Pacific areas are continually being closed down or burned to prevent believers from worshipping. Indonesia is not necessarily the country described in the accompanying story. (BP photo courtesy of International Christian Concern)

sage of God's salvation taken to the ends of the earth.

Government officials seized the volunteers, who had been in the country for several days. The group was told only that they were being held for trying to profit from materials deemed "illegal" by the government.

Taken to a prison, the group was told a higher-level official would attend to them shortly. Emotions were high, the group admitted, as minutes became hours and clearly no one was coming to see them.

ers, I knew straight up that God was sovereign."

Left alone by their captors, the four gathered and prayed in the cell, making the decision to give God the glory for their situation.

"It was clear we had a choice," Kay said. "We talked about it and prayed, then Colvin busted out the guitar. It was an amazing time of praise and worship."

Colvin, the only male in the group, said there had been discussion as to whether he should bring his guitar on the trip, which would involve

Miss. CP rises for month

Gifts to the work of the Lord through the Mississippi Cooperative Program (CP) in June totaled \$2,883,335, according to Jim Futral, executive director-treasurer of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board which disburses the funds. The June total represents 33.89% more than the \$2,153,402 given the previous month, and 46.05% above the \$1,974,169 given in the same period last year. Total Mississippi CP giving for the current fiscal year, which runs from January-December, stands at \$15,873,060 — 5.25% above last year's giving during the same period and 2.89% ahead of current year budget needs. The 2004 Mississippi CP budget of \$30,854,971, was approved by messengers to the 2003 annual meeting of the Mississippi Baptist Convention. A total of \$2,571,248 is needed each month to meet the convention board's budget for 2004. In addition to supporting more than 10,700 missionaries in the U.S. and around the world through affiliation with the Southern Baptist Convention, Mississippi CP helps fund such programs as the Music Leadership Conference on July 8-10 at Gulfshore Assembly in Pass Christian; Royal Ambassadors Lad/Dad Weekend on July 16-17 at Central Hills Retreat near Kosciusko; and Girls in Action (GA) summer camps at Camp Garaywa in Clinton.

SBC CP slips in June

June contributions to the Southern Baptist Convention (SBC) Cooperative Program (CP) of \$13,122,510.27 were 21.41% below the \$16,698,405.33 given the previous month, and 12.68%, or \$1,905,449.70, below the \$15,027,959.97 received in June 2003. However, year-to-date contributions through the Southern Baptist Convention's Cooperative Program are up 2.73% compared to the same time frame in 2003, according to a news release from SBC Executive Committee President and Chief Executive Officer Morris H. Chapman. As of June 30, the year-to-date total of \$142,819,138.66 for Cooperative Program (CP) missions is \$3,794,814.07 ahead of the \$139,024,324.59 received at this same point in 2003. Designated giving of \$171,699,413.27 for the same year-to-date period is 14.9%, or \$22,271,215.64, above gifts of \$149,428,197.63 received at this point in 2003. The \$19,173,040.16 in designated gifts received last month is \$74,102.75 below the \$19,907,142.91 of June 2003, a 3.69% decrease. For the SBC CP Allocation Budget, the year-to-date total of \$142,819,138.66 is 104.44% of the \$136,742,332.50 budgeted, or \$6,076,806.16 above budget to support Southern Baptist ministries globally and across North America.

GUEST OPINION



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Save marriage, now or never

I would be very surprised if, just a few decades ago, there were many of us who thought we'd see the day when the very institution of the family would be called into question by the prospect of same-sex marriage. That day has come, and the biggest shock of all may be that this development has prompted little more than a minor outcry from most Americans.

A small percentage of Christians have awakened to this threat, however, and I am encouraged by their energy and the efforts that they have poured into this fight. It is heartening to see that within the Southern Baptist Convention (SBC), there is a high degree of commitment to this battle, which was evidenced at the annual SBC meeting in Indianapolis by the passage of a resolution in support of a Federal Marriage Amendment (FMA).

Still, this will remain an uphill battle unless the church as a whole rallies together.

Among believers, there should be no doubt about God's prohibition against homosexuality. Scripture clearly forbids it, and even those who do not subscribe to biblical teaching are offered many evidences that sexual deviancy goes against the grain of nature's design. Ignoring the Lord's warnings in this regard invites a host of ills, for both the individual and society at large.

Volumes could be written about the ramifications for a culture that embraces homosexuality, and even more could be said about what can happen when same-sex marriage is given a nod by the powers that be. Not only will the traditional family as it has been defined for millennia go by the wayside — which I see as the gravest danger facing us — but a number of other byproducts will logically follow. To name just a few:

- The homosexual lifestyle will gain universal acceptance.
- Anyone daring to speak out against it, including the church, will be silenced and even penalized.
- Scripture will be utterly rejected as a relevant guide to behavior.
- Laws forbidding pedophilia (sex with children) and polygamy (multiple spouses) will be overturned.
- The public schools will be forced to teach our children that homosexuality is a viable lifestyle.
- More and more special rights will be offered to anyone claiming homosexual tendencies.

Obviously, the impact of such radical reforms cannot be overstated and the most devastating result will be the complete and final destruction of the family as it has been known since the dawn of time.

We're already seeing the homosexual movement accomplish many of its objectives, and those not yet fully realized are just over the horizon. If we are to have any hope of thwarting these attempts, it's time for the American people to take action.

Unfortunately, there is a great deal of apathy among our fellow citizens — even as we've watched the U.S. Supreme Court overturn anti-sodomy laws and the Massachusetts high court legalize same-sex marriage. Among those skeptical about the real dangers facing us, the common thread of belief goes something like this: "Why should my family be threatened by what homosexuals do?"

The answer is straightforward: If the benefits and privileges of marriage are granted to anyone who wants them, this foundational unit of human society will come to signify nothing. That, I'm convinced, is the ulti-

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mate goal of those working toward the legalization of same-sex marriage.

Most don't want the freedom to enter into monogamous, lifelong relationships. They want liberation from such bonds, while still enjoying all the perks formerly reserved solely for married couples. The only way to achieve that is to nullify marriage itself.

Of course, heterosexual couples entering into a legitimate union sanctioned by Scripture — and, until now, by our government — will be the ones to lose out since the exclusive nature of biblical marriage will have been rejected.

Nonetheless, there is a glimmer of hope. Even as I write this, a coalition of folks dedicated to saving marriage is laboring toward the passage of the FMA. Such legislation, if it succeeds, essentially amends the U.S. Constitution to state that marriage shall consist only of the union between one man and one woman.

The FMA is not perfect, to be sure, but it is the strongest chance we have of stopping the rapid advance of same-sex marriage dead in its tracks.

Some critics of the FMA claim that amendments to state constitutions are adequate to combat homosexual marriage. However, leaving this matter to the states invites chaos of an unprecedented kind. Rather than a uniform definition of marriage that would hold true throughout the country, we'll have fifty different definitions.

How will this play out practically? Couples who are married legally in one state could travel to another state and demand their status be acknowledged. Imagine the

litigation and confusion that would be created! What's more, allowing the states to define marriage leaves a loophole by which the U.S. Supreme Court, or even lower courts, simply could override the will of the people. If there's any doubt about this, we need only recall that fateful day in 1973 when abortion was legalized by the "Supremes" without regard for the states' objections. So while state constitutional amendments are to be encouraged as a powerful expression of support for traditional marriage, we must realize their limitations. The FMA presents the only sure solution.

Unfortunately, Congress has shown itself unwilling to bridle the courts' power. This leaves it up to the American people to fight for an amendment designed toward that end. Thankfully, polls have consistently shown the vast majority of the population to be adamantly opposed to homosexual marriage. This tells me there should be more than enough momentum behind the FMA.

I pray millions of Americans will flood our congressmen with phone calls, letters, e-mails, and visits. The Capitol Hill switchboard number is (202) 224-3121. E-mail addresses can be found at: www.senate.gov and www.house.gov.

This is a critical juncture for our nation. We cannot choose to sit on the sidelines this time. The God-ordained institution of the family is hanging in the balance, and if we fail to rescue it, there will be no turning back. Western civilization — not to mention the future of our children and grandchildren — will have been changed forever. May the Lord strengthen us to win this battle.

Widowed worker appeals to messengers

INDIANAPOLIS (BP) — Just three months after losing her husband and being seriously injured in an ambush in Iraq, International Mission Board (IMB) worker Carrie McDonnall is telling people who feel called to a dangerous task for the Kingdom they'd "better go."

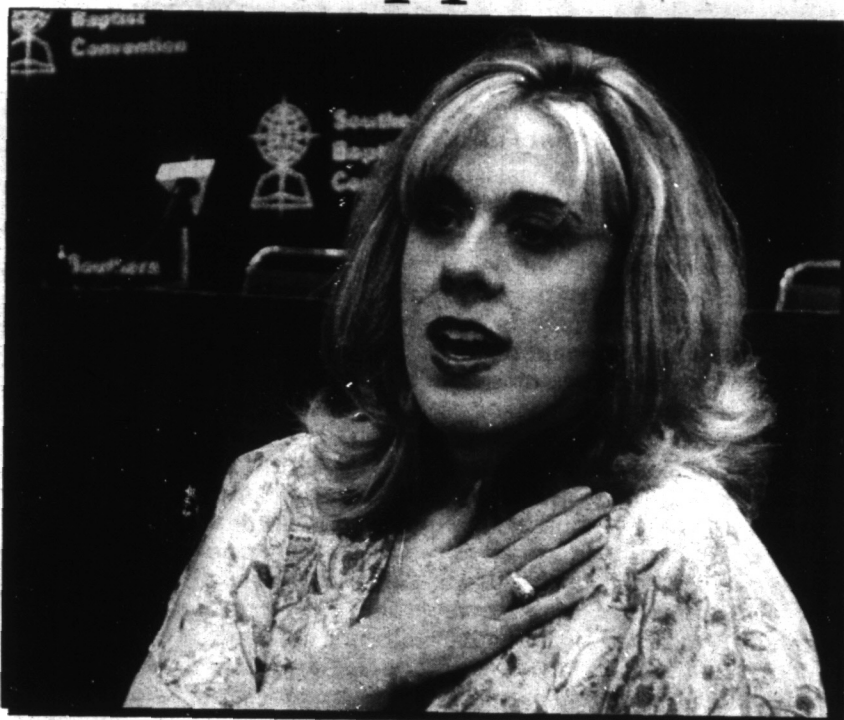
"We have to keep going to the hard places. We have to keep going to the violent places," McDonnall told Baptist Press June 16 at the Southern Baptist Convention annual meeting in Indianapolis. "God's call was not just to go to the places that were easy."

McDonnall was the lone survivor from a March 15 drive-by shooting in which her husband David and three fellow IMB workers, Larry and Jean Elliott and Karen Watson, were killed while traveling in northern Iraq.

McDonnall said she hopes people don't look at her and decide not to go to places like Iraq. "I hope this fires people up, not that they say, 'I can't go. Look at her, look at the tragedy in her life,' but rather say, 'Look how God has overcome this,'" she said. "He should be glorified, and He will be glorified into the uttermost parts of the world, and the church needs to rise up and go."

Though she had a close walk with God long before the shooting, McDonnall said she certainly has struggled with why God would allow such a tragedy to happen. But she has found God to be faithful, full of grace and mercy.

"That has not changed one bit. From the time I woke up [from the coma], God has been very near. He was near when we were being attacked," she said. "I woke up and my world turned upside down, and I found out my husband didn't make it."



Carrie McDonnall

"So therefore I'm dealing with my body being broken and my heart being broken, and His Word says that He is full of love and He is sovereign, and my heart's going, 'That doesn't sound right. That's not what I'm feeling,'" McDonnall said, "but I just continue to cling to the truth, even though there have been hours of going, 'Is that right?' and going, 'I know it's right, and I know that He is sovereign and He is full of love.'"

Reflecting on what she would consider her favorite verse, McDonnall laughed and said rather than holding to one specific verse to get her through recent weeks, she has held to nearly a whole book of the Bible because of the magnitude of her need — "pretty much the whole book of Psalms!"

God's hand has been evident in many ways, she said, but one major way is through her remarkably fast physical healing.

The bone in her left leg was shattered by a bullet, and a large gash of skin, bone, ligaments, and muscle was blown out, she said.

"The doctors, when they first saw it, were thinking they were going to have to basically restructure my leg so I could walk, and when I got to Dallas, they looked at it and were just going to let the wound heal correctly to see if that was needed," she recounted.

It turned out the reconstruction wasn't necessary. Neither was the insertion of a rod in place of the bone. Also, the severity of her leg injury, the doctors predicted, would require about 10 months to heal. Instead, it has taken only about 10 weeks for her to go from an external fixator to a cast to a splint on her leg.

The splint, she said, should be off by the end of the summer. "Again, that's God's grace. That's God's hand that has been upon me. I'm blown away that I'm here," she said through tears. "I was in that truck. I know what happened. His hand was upon me. He kept me alive.... and I'm thankful so much for the prayers of the saints and everybody that has prayed and sacrificed their time to lift me up, and I know that is evident in my healing," McDonnall said.

For those who want to continue praying, McDonnall said they may pray for God to give her guidance concerning what to do next. She said she had no blueprint for the way things have happened, so she doesn't know what's next. She also requested prayer for her family as they continue to grieve the loss of her husband. The two were married just one year and nine months at the time of the attack.

The people of Iraq are still a great concern for McDonnall because the actions of a few did not taint her love for the nation as a whole. She and her husband answered God's call to Iraq to fulfill something as simple as the need people there have for clean water.

"The Iraqi people are a great, spirited people. They were very kind and very loving. They need help," she told Baptist Press. "They have a situation over there where they need a leg up. The Iraqis that we came in contact

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with invited us into their homes and into their lives and were very gracious and glad that we were there to help them."

Her assessment of the state of mind of many Iraqis after the liberation is that they are timid about embracing the freedom they have been given. After living so many decades under brutal oppression, they still fear someone may be watching and waiting to harm them for exercising their freedom.

McDonnall said even when she and her husband were praying about following God to Iraq, there was a tremendous concern for their safety and several people told them not to go to the war-torn country.

"(God) very clearly through His Word and through prayer showed us that this is where we needed to be. We went and we knew the risk and we knew the cost and we counted it, but we knew we had to follow what God was leading us to do," she said.

Conversions prohibited?

DUBLIN, Ireland (BP) — The Sri Lankan Cabinet has granted initial approval of a draft bill designed to prevent religious conversions, according to a June 24 report by Compass Direct news service. The Act for the Protection of Religious Freedom, approved June 18, will now be revised by the government's legal draftsmen before being enacted as law, Compass Direct reported. Two separate acts were initially proposed to parliament — one by the Buddhist Jathika Hela Urumaya (JHU), a minority party allied with President Chandrika Kumaratunga, and one by Ratnasiri Wickremarajapaksa, the minister for Buddha Sasana (Buddhist Affairs), the news service noted. The draft bill on prohibition of forcible conversion proposed by the JHU was released in late May. It advocated fines of up to \$5,027 and a maximum of seven years in prison for anyone involved in illegal conversion, Compass Direct said. Both the convert and the person responsible for his or her conversion would suffer penalties if found guilty. The JHU bill was scheduled for presentation to parliament June 8, but the JHU announced in parliament that morning that they would not vote with the government on any issue. A scuffle broke out between the JHU and members of the opposition, and parliament was dissolved. Further sessions were postponed until July 20, according to Compass Direct. Under the terms of the Sri Lankan constitution, once a law has been passed by parliament, there is no opportunity for judicial review. A 2002 commission called for the introduction of anti-conversion laws and the creation of an informal court system or "Sanghadhikarana," presided over by Buddhist monks. The Sanghadhikarana would resolve village level disputes without reference to the police or courts of law.

10 years ago

R. Raymond Lloyd, pastor of First Church, Starkville, for the past 22 years, announces his retirement. His retirement concludes 45 years as a pastor of Southern Baptist churches.

20 years ago

Al and Molly Fairchild of Moselle plan a quick return to India after the government there fails to grant them a permanent visa to continue their work as volunteer Baptist missionaries in the Chandigarh area, forcing their return to the U.S.

50 years ago

C. Emanuel Carlson of Washington, executive director of the Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs, tells a Senate Interstate Commerce subcommittee that "the persistent voice of the liquor industry is an effective voice making its impact on both young and old people. It is just as irresponsible as it is effective."



MISSISSIPPI
BAPTISTS

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THE
SECOND
FRONT PAGE

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NE churches
set July 18
marriage rally

Churches across northeast Mississippi have scheduled an interdenominational, interracial rally at the BancorpSouth Center in Tupelo on July 18, to show support for the proposed Federal Marriage Amendment slated to be debated the previous week in the U.S. Senate.

The event, entitled Rally for Traditional Marriage, will begin at 6 p.m. and adjourn at 7:30 p.m.

Rally speakers will include Gary Bauer of Washington, D.C., chairman of the Campaign for Working Families and former president of the Family Research Council; Mississippi Congressman Roger Wicker of Tupelo; and Bill Owens, pastor of Church of God in Christ in Memphis. The American Family Association in Tupelo has announced that its radio ministry, American Family Radio, will carry the event live over the 200-station network.

Bibliocipher

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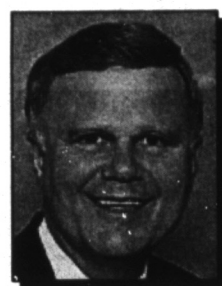
Have fun with cryptography and exercise your Bible knowledge. A King James Version Bible verse has been encoded by letter substitution. The same letter is substituted throughout the puzzle. Solve by trial and error. Answer to last week's puzzle: Luke 6:9

MARRIAGE AMENDMENT

What a marriage is should not be an issue to debate but since marriage has been brought to the national forefront and various groups are pushing to have it redefined or more clearly undefined, it is a debate from which we must not shy away and we must not lose. The Federal Marriage Amendment would put into the national body of law a definition that would be biblical in its substance and protective of the God given institution of marriage.

Marriage should not be a political issue, but it will certainly be on the political agenda this year. Rather than political, it is biblical and from the beginning to the end and all through Scripture God established and intended that marriage would be the relationship between a man and a woman committed to each other under Him in love. I have heard some politicians and leaders say that the decision about what marriage is or is not should be left up to the definitions given by the courts of the land. That sounds proper and thoughtful but it is filled with flaws.

There are a number of problems with such reasoning, including the fact that various states have various definitions of what marriage is or should be. Additionally, there is the problem of where does each state start and end with their definition. For instance, some states are now indicating that a loving relationship between two consenting adults whether of the same sex or of opposite sex can form a marriage. Just a few short years ago no one would have even thought of such a thing much less enacted such a thing. I suppose it proves that if you say a lie enough and offer it



Jim Futral, executive director-treasurer
Mississippi Baptist Convention Board

up as truth, some people will even begin to believe that it is truth.

So what if a marriage is no longer defined as a relationship between a man and woman and it can be a man and a man or a woman and a woman who are adults and are committed to each other? What if someone says, "We are in love" — and it is a man and his adult daughter or even his adult son? Does the law now have to recognize that as a marriage? Would all of the laws related to incest and all of the problems related to that kind of relationship be thrown out?

I have heard people in the marriage debate say, "Well, that is being absurd. That is not what we are talking about at all. That would never happen." Well, the need for a marriage amendment in our day is a reminder that we never thought same sex marriage would ever be considered acceptable or proper behavior either. If there is no definition of marriage and if there are no boundaries, then there are no boundaries at all. Can a marriage then be formed between a parent and child, or between siblings, or even between different species? You may say, "Well that is not even being reasonable." I agree but same sex marriage is not reasonable either. What are we supposed to do as Christians? How are we supposed to express our views and be a part of shaping our cultural?

Directions

Speak up! It seems as though the voice of Christian reason has been too quiet on this issue. You and I must speak up for a wonderful, simple, biblical truth about marriage. I have heard Christian folks say that they did not think it made much difference whether there was a definition of marriage or a marriage amendment or not, because for them everything would go along the same. Not so; if marriage has no definition in our society and same sex marriage becomes an equal norm, then the laws will begin to shape a different culture. To speak in opposition to the practice would become hate speech. Meaningful marriage from a biblical perspective is not being anti-anyone or hating anyone, but it is holding to what is right. If you think this is not a reality that could come to our country, just look to the north of America and see what has taken place in Canada, where the thing I am describing is already a part of their national fabric. Christians must not be silent and it is important that we speak up for the truth of God's creation of marriage.

Shape up! I must say that it is vitally important for us not only to work for a marriage definition that is correct but to then live in a right relationship as husband and wife. A marriage in the Bible is a relation-

ship between a husband and wife for a lifetime. With the divorce rate among evangelicals equal to the divorce rate of unbelievers, it is important that we speak up and then shape up in our own homes.

Lift up! I think that we need to pray for the leaders of our country as we have never prayed before. Pray for our President, who has boldly and courageously stepped out front to lead toward a marriage amendment. Lift up the men and women who will be voting and influencing others on this issue. It takes courage to do the right thing and not to be swayed by political expediency. Pray for pastors and lift up spiritual leaders across our country that they will be vocal and help people understand the issue and what is at stake.

Look up! All of us should join together in looking to heaven for divine intervention in our country, so that we would know the hand of God upon us and follow God's will before us. I have so often thought of that proverbial statement, "When small men cast long shadows, the sun is setting." I do not believe that we are at the end of our nation's history, but I do believe that we are at a point where history can be turned. One of the turning, defining moments can take place in the support of and ratification of the Federal Marriage Amendment.

Marriage as given to us by God is a foundation stone of society, an incubator of future generations, a school room for godly mentoring, and a role model of genuine, unconditional love. Marriage is worth saving.

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For references and more information, call Mike Brooks at 601-420-0174 or 1-800-442-0290.

**Wellington
Associates,
Inc.**

What I tell you in the darkness, speak in the light; and what you hear whispered in your ear, proclaim upon the

HOUSE TOPS.

Matthew 10:27 NAS

July 8, 2004

HouseTops is a Baptist Record supplement produced by the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board's Communication Services.

MISSISSIPPI WMU Church Leadership Training August 20-21, 2004 • Camp Garaywa

Registration begins Friday at 3 p.m. with dinner and introductions at 5 p.m.
Worship and lunch will conclude the training Saturday at 1:30 p.m.

Preregistration is required for meals and lodging only: the cost of the conference is free. Preregistration for meals and lodging MUST BE POSTMARKED NO LATER THAN AUGUST 11.

This event is sponsored by Mississippi WMU, an auxiliary to and a department of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board. For more information, contact Tammy Anderson at 1-800-748-1651, ext. 323, or 601-292-3323 or download a registration form at www.mbc.org

CLT Registration Form for Meals & Lodging

Name: _____
E-Mail: _____
Address: _____
Home Phone: () _____ Work Phone: () _____
Church: _____ Association: _____

MEALS

☐ \$18 Total Meal Package (includes all 3 meals)

or

☐ \$7 Fri. dinner

☐ \$5 Sat. breakfast

☐ \$6 Sat. lunch

LODGING

PATTERSON PLACE (linens incl.)

GUEST HOUSE (linens incl.)

☐ 1 @ \$35 per person

☐ \$14 per person

☐ 2 @ \$35 per person

CABINS (linens **NOT** incl.)

☐ 3 @ \$35 per person

☐ \$8 per person

☐ 4 @ \$35 per person

PLEASE LIST ROOMMATES

Make checks payable to Camp Garaywa, memo to "WMU CLT"
Mail to: Camp Garaywa, 312 Camp Garaywa Rd., Clinton, MS 39056

Optional Lodging at nearby hotels:

Comfort Inn 601-924-9364

Days Inn 601-925-5065

Hampton Inn 601-925-9393

Holiday Inn Express 601-924-0064

Meal Total: \$ _____

Lodging Total: \$ _____

Total Enclosed: \$ _____

For information, please contact Tammy Anderson at 1-800-748-1651, ext. 323, or tanderson@mbcb.org, or check our Web site at www.mbc.org.



Servanthood:
Love in Action

I JOHN 3:18

Men's Ministry State Leadership Training

**August 13-14
Central Hills
Baptist Retreat
Kosciusko**

Training Sessions

- Building an Effective Men's Ministry
- Enhancing Your RA Program
- Developing Family Mission Trips
- Disaster Relief
- Ministering in Other Cultures
- New Ideas for Reaching Men
- Developing a "Challengers" Program
- Generations in Conflict
- Camp Craft Training

Cost

\$25 per person, which includes meals, lodging and all sessions. Each participant should bring linens, sleeping bag and pillow.

Friday, August 13

- 6:00 p.m. Registration
- 6:30 p.m. Supper
- 7:30 p.m. Opening Session
Speaker: John Temple, pastor, FBC, Madison
- 8:30 p.m. Training Session #1

Saturday, August 14

- 7:00 a.m. Breakfast
- 8:00 a.m. Training Session #2
- 9:30 a.m. Training Session #3
- 11:00 a.m. Closing Session
Speaker: Rob Carr
NAMB

For more info,
contact the
Men's Ministry
Department
1-800-748-1651
or
601-292-3334.

Rankin Baptist Association Children's Discipleship Rally



Daron Pitts
ROC Ministries

Sunday, August 15, 2004, 6 p.m.
Liberty Baptist Church, Flowood

• Prayers and Worship Time • Pizza Meal
• Discipleship Features

Teacher Appreciation and PrayerWalk for Schools

Sunday, August 1

- Conduct a commitment service during the morning worship for school teachers and administrators.
- Pray and commission teachers and administrators as they begin the new school year.
- Request specific prayer needs from school administrators and teachers.
- Meet at the church on Sunday afternoon to PrayerWalk and/or prayer drive around the area schools.
- Share the PrayerWalk experiences during the evening worship.

If you would like to receive information on PrayerWalking Local Schools for Principals, for Pastors and for Participants, call 601-292-3324 or E-mail KBurns@mbcb.org. Order PrayerWalking key chains from www.prayerclosetministries.org or call Dr. Kevin Meador, 601-635-2180.

Growing Churches 2004

There is strength in
multiple strands!

"... A cord of three
strands is not easily
broken." Eccl. 4:12

"United in Ministry"



July 29-31
Gulfshore Baptist
Assembly
with
Jim Futral
executive director-treasurer
MBCB



Leadership training
and practical help for:

- Sunday School teachers
- General leaders
- Pastors
- Discipleship
- Family ministry
- Deacons
- Recreation ministry
- Church staff
- Women's ministry

Sponsored jointly by the
Discipleship and Family Ministry Department and
Sunday School Department
For more info on July 29-31, call 601-292-3373

BIBLE DRILL CAMP

August 5-7, 2004
Central Hills Baptist Retreat

For: All children who have completed grades 3-6 (Bible Drill Camp is open to any church group whether they have Bible Drill at their church or not.)

Cost: \$90 • Registration: 1:30 p.m., Thursday, August 5



For more information about the camp program contact Don Hicks, camp pastor, at 601-292-3287 in Jackson or 1-800-748-1651, or by E-mail at dhicks@mbcb.org. For information about reservations or the retreat center contact Jim Ray, retreat manager, at 662-289-9730 or by E-mail at jray@mbcb.org.



Camp Activities
include:

Bible study
Scripture memorization
Bible Drill skills
Worship
Time with missionaries
Flag ceremonies
Swimming
Canoeing
Horseback riding
Rifle range (safety and marksmanship)

September 14-16
Camp Garaywa, Clinton

2004

Professional Certification
for Ministry Assistants
and
Ministry Office SkillShops

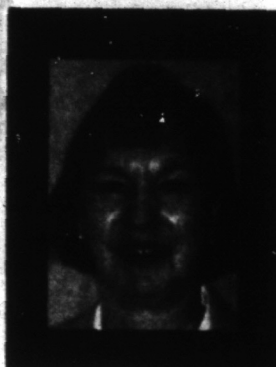
MINISTRY OFFICE SKILLSHOPS

Time Management
Church Financial Management
Sarah Farmer



For more info, contact the
Pastor/Leadership
Development Department
at 1-800-748-1651 or
601-292-3305.

PROFESSIONAL
CERTIFICATION
Sandy Sigmon



SINGLES Missions LAB

24 hour...
EXTREME
MAKEOVER

September 24-25, 2004
Camp Garaywa
Clinton, Miss.

heads-on ministry...
...testimonies
...fellowship...
...worship
...celebrations...

Registrations must be postmarked by September 8, 2004. Refunds will not be available after that time, but substitutions may be made. For information, please contact Tammy Anderson at 1-800-748-1651, ext. 323, or tanderson@mbcb.org, or download a registration form at www.mbcb.org.

Singles MissionsLAB Registration

Contact Person

Home ()

Work ()

Address

City State Zip

Fax ()

E-mail

Church membership

City

Association

No. of females in group

No. of males in group

Lodging: choose one

GUEST HOUSE

Includes Linens

☐ \$14 per person

CABINS

linens NOT included

☐ \$8 per person

Meals: choose group or as individual meals

☐ \$25 Total meal package or

☐ \$7 Fri. din/ ☐ \$5 Sat. bkt/ ☐ \$6 Sat. lun/ ☐ \$7 Sat. din

Lodging Cost \$

+ Meal Cost \$

+ Ministry Fee \$

Subtotal \$

x # of people

= TOTAL PAID \$

Make CHECKS payable to
Camp Garaywa & MAIL to
Camp Garaywa
312 Camp Garaywa Rd.
Clinton, MS 39056

Your team's ministry choice (Register each team separately)

☐ Light construction/weatherization

☐ Children's ministries (Backyard Bible Clubs, etc.)

☐ Acts of kindness (things that help people)

☐ Social ministries (Food, clothing)

Please attach the name, t-shirt size,
address, phone number and E-mail for
each participant you are registering.

Rankin Baptist Association

Baptist Family Gathering

Sunday, August 15, 2004
Pinelake Baptist Church, Brandon

MAIN PROGRAM

(6 p.m.)



Richard Jackson



Graham Smith



BONUS (at 4:45 p.m.)
Basics of Sunday School
Outreach
Tom Lee

- Powerful Preaching
- Mass Choir
- Discipleship Features

Pray this day for...

July 9-22, 2004

Prayer Ministry Office • P.O. Box 530 • Jackson, MS 39205-0530 • Phone (601) 292-3304 • Mississippi PrayerLine 1 (800) 787-7729 (PRAY)

"To pray is to change. Prayer is the central avenue God uses to transform us. If we are unwilling to change, we will abandon prayer as a noticeable characteristic of our lives. The closer we come to the heartbeat of God the more we see our need and the more we desire to be conformed to Christ."

Richard Foster in Celebration of Discipline

Please pray for a small team of Russians to be formed to start a church by building on an existing Bible study that meets in the center of the city. Pray that this team will develop more cell group Bible studies and meet together as a church.

For: (1) GA Camp, Camp Garaywa, Clinton, 12th-16th (WMU); (2) Super Summer, Mississippi College, Clinton, noon, 12th - 1 p.m., 16th (D&FM); (3) Summer Missions Camp for Boys, Central Hills Baptist Retreat, Kosciusko, 10 a.m., 12th-1 p.m., 16th (MM).

Continue praying for the Gem area of Nigeria. The threat of persecution is always there. Even in this time of persecution, many Fulani are seeking the truth of Christ. There is tribal and religious fighting just down the road from Gem. Pray that the fighting will subside and not come to Gem.

Ask God to lead Ghana Baptist Theological Seminary students to places of Christian ministry where they can use their talents, skills and theological training during the long school break, mid June to mid August. Many are willing to serve but need God's direction.

For: (1) Pastor & Wife Retreat, Gulfshore Baptist Assembly, Pass Christian, (P/LD); (2) Jaime and Shirley Velasco work with the Poplar Heights Baptist Church Hispanic ministry. The Lord is doing great things among the Hispanic population in Jackson, Tenn. Pray that more will receive Jesus as Savior.

For: (1) Lad/Dad Weekend, Central Hills, Kosciusko, (MM); (2) The Kimberley Central Evangelism Team writes: "Prayer walking courses are being taught in a church and in an extension Bible school center in South Africa. Pray that they will see our communities from God's perspective and pray for them."

For: (1) Centrifuge, Gulfshore Baptist Assembly, Pass Christian, 10th-15th (LifeWay); (2) Team Belgium gives praise over seven who were recently baptized. They were from Iran, South Africa, the Philippines, Kazakhstan, and Uzbekistan. Intercede that they will continue to grow closer to the Lord.

For: (1) II Centrifuge, Gulfshore Baptist Assembly, 17th-22nd (LifeWay); (2) Acteens Activators Trip, 17th-24th (WMU); (3) Terry McIlvain is the director of youth evangelism for the Kansas-Nebraska Convention. Pray for summer camp which is being held June 28-August 13 in Alma, Kan.

Pray for Frank Drinkard of Team ProCristo in the Dominican Republic. He is baseball chaplain for the Los Angeles Dodgers baseball academy where prospects are trained. He has Bible study and worship with young men from the Dominican Republic, Mexico, Venezuela, Panama, Guatemala, and El Salvador.

For: (1) GA Camp, Camp Garaywa, 19th-23rd (WMU); (2) Summer Missions Camp for Boys, Central Hills, 19th-23rd (MM); (3) Pray that the leadership of Namisagali, Kilezi, and Keeta Baptist Churches, Uganda, will grow in wisdom toward the Lord and put away childish behavior in leading congregations.

Most Kuria believers in Kenya and Tanzania are women. Pray for Kuria men to come to faith in Christ and to lead their families in following the Lord.

Many Kham Tibetans of China have physical disabilities. Pray that through gracious displays of God's mighty power, the lame will walk, the deaf will hear, and the blind will see. Ask that these events will lead people to Christ.

For: Centri-Kid, Gulfshore Baptist Assembly, Pass Christian, 22nd-24th (SS & LifeWay); (2) Please keep the Baptist International Mission Services Medical Team in prayer during the next few months as their office is going through many changes and adjustments.



SEPTEMBER



Don't Forget

If you have taken a Men's Ministry mission trip this year, don't forget to turn in your Volunteer Missions Report before August 16th.

If you did not receive a volunteer mission report form in the mail, please contact the Men's Ministry Department at 1-800-748-1651 or 601-292-3334.

- 9-9-95
MISS EMILY C. HEWITT
Parents: Earl and Ramona Hewitt
West Africa: Medicine
- 9-16-86
MR. MICHAEL R. HOLYFIELD
Parents: Michael and Patricia Holyfield
Central & Eastern Europe: Church Planting
- 9-17-91
MISS LOREN M. FOSTER
Parents: Michael and Miranda Foster
Middle America: Strategy
- 9-21-92
MR. DERRICK A. DeMARS
Parents: Guy and Cindy DeMars
West Africa: Community Development
- 9-21-00
MR. JOSEPH C. PRICE
Parents: Richard and Christi Price
Central and Eastern Europe: Medicine
- 9-27-83
MISS AMY K. LEE
Parents: Henry and Linda Lee
Western Pacific: Church Planting

Take a moment to send a card to encourage the children of our missionaries!

PLEASE NOTE
Church members may send a package of cards together; cards do not have to be sent individually to Stewardship.

For security, cards will be processed through the Child's name and parent's name, MBCB Stewardship Dept., P.O. Box 530, Jackson MS 39205

JUST FOR THE RECORD



First Church Louisville Groundbreaking, Louisville

Oak Grove Church, Smithdale, will hold VBS, Lava Lava Island, Where Jesus' Love Flows, July 12-16 from 8:30-11:30 a.m. Micah C. Rutland is pastor.

The **Yalobusha Baptist Association** will host a gospel singing benefit for Donald Miller July 10 at the Yalobusha Multipurpose Building, Coffeeville. Hot dogs, chips, and drinks will be sold beginning at 5 p.m. Singing will begin at 6 p.m.

Bethesda Church, Terry, invites all children to attend VBS July 18-22 from 6-8:30 p.m.

The youth of **Fernwood Church, Gulfport**, will hold Rickshaw Rally-From Virtual to Spiritual Control Wednesday nights in July from 6:30-8 p.m. Jim Kultau is pastor.

Daniel Memorial Church, Jackson, will have a Summer Celebration Service July 12 at 7 p.m. featuring the New Life Quartet. Admission is free, but a love offering will be received. For more information, call (601) 376-4100. Steve Potts is pastor.

Daniel Memorial Church, Jackson, will hold VBS July 18-23 from 6-8:30 p.m. Children age 6-grade 6 are invited. Katrina Marler is the director. For more information, call (601) 376-4100.

The children of **Bethsaida Church, Philadelphia**, recently collected stuffed animals for the Union Police Department to be given to children in trauma situations.

The high school graduates of **Calvary Church, Pascagoula**, were honored May 16. Pictured

(from left) are Sarah Gail Taylor, Tosha Marie Miller, Valerie Christine Oliver, Jessica Nicole Lockwood, and Ben Joel Thomas.

First Church, Louisville, held a groundbreaking ceremony May 30 for their new Family Life Center. Pictured are Mark Donald, William E. Donald, Tracy B. Bailey, Wendell Rogers, Juanita Hight, Davis Taylor, and Don Boone, pastor.

The **Creative Arts Ministry of Hillcrest Church, Byram**, will present a dinner theater, If the Good Lord's Willing and the Creek Don't Rise, August 13 and 14. Dinner begins at 6 p.m. and the play at 7 p.m. Tickets are \$12.50 and may be purchased at Party Warehouse, Byram, or the church office. For more information, call (601) 372-0132.

HOMECOMINGS & REVIVALS

McAdams, Attala Association: Revival July 18-21; Sunday, 11 a.m., lunch at noon, and 6 p.m.; Mon.-Wed., 10:30 a.m. and 7 p.m., with choir at 6:30 p.m.; David Shepherd, Highland, Jones Association, evangelist; Alton Blanton, music; Dan West, pastor; all are invited.

Clifton, Scott Association: Revival July 14-16; 7 p.m. nightly; Mike Powell, Tony Henry, Edward Knox, Shannon Burns, Don Taylor, and Randall Creel, speakers; Danny and Nancy Harrison, music.

New Ireland, Union: Revival July 18-21; Sunday, 11 a.m. and 4 p.m.; Mon.-Wed., 6 p.m.; Tommy Anderson, evangelist; Chris Harrison, pastor; all are welcome; nursery provided.

New Salem, McCall Creek: Revival July 18-21; Sunday School, 10 a.m., 11 a.m., lunch will be served, and 6 p.m.; Mon.-Wed. 7 p.m.; Philip Hemby, speaker; Delton Holland, music; Wiley Reid, interim pastor.

Vaiden, Vaiden: Revival July 18-21; daily at 10:30 a.m. and 7:30 p.m.; Scott Vaughn, BSU Director, East Central Community College, speaking; Billy Jack Green, Franklin, Tenn., music; R. Leon Holly, pastor.

Hickory Grove, Sumrall: Revival July 11-16; Sunday, 10:30 a.m., lunch will be served, and 1:30 p.m.; Mon.-Fri., 7 p.m.; Mike Lee, evangelist; Mike Morris, music evangelist; nursery provided; all are welcome.

Mission Hill, Wesson: Homecoming July 18; Sunday School, 10 a.m.; worship, 10:45

a.m.; lunch will be served; Tommy Purvis, pastor.

Mission Hill, Wesson: Revival July 19-21; 7 p.m. nightly; Billy Howse, evangelist.

Paynes, Charleston: Homecoming July 11; Sunday School, 9:45 a.m.; worship, 11 a.m.; lunch will be served; singing will follow; Avery Jones, Nashville, Tenn., guest speaker; Tommy Tanner, pastor.

Pine Hill, Enterprise: Revival July 15-17; 7 p.m. nightly; Danny Lanier, Little Rock, evangelist; all are welcome.

Oak Grove, Lake: revival July 18-21; Sunday, 10 a.m., 11 a.m., lunch will follow, and 1:30 p.m.; Mon.-Wed., 7 p.m.; Tommy Jones, Louisville, guest preacher; Ted Jones, music; Keith McGee, pastor.

Liberty, Forest: Revival July 11-14; nightly at 7 p.m.; J. Garland McKee, evangelist; Ernie Myers, pastor.

Ashland, Ashland: Revival July 11-14; daily at noon and 7 p.m.; Floyd Paris, Unity, Ashland, Ky., evangelist; Brian Price, First, Waverly, Tenn., music; Randy Crews, Sr., pastor.

Goodwater, Forest: Homecoming July 11; 11 a.m.; lunch at noon; cemetery association, 1:30 p.m.; Parks Marler, retired missionary to Guam, speaker; all are invited.

First, Polkville: 150th Anniversary July 11; 10:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m.; all are welcome.

Gore Springs, Gore Springs: Revival July 18-23 Sunday, 11 a.m. and 7 p.m.; 7 p.m. nightly; Ben Yarber, evangelist; Johnny Presley, music evangelist; Roy D. Hawkins, pastor.

Mississippi

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More than 50% of Mississippi deaths related to heart disease occur in women.

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More frighteningly, only 8% of women even realize that heart disease is a significant health risk to women.

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WOMEN'S HEART

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BAPTISTS



Calvary Church Graduates, Pascagoula



Children of Bethsaida Church, Philadelphia

www.mbc.org

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FAMILY BIBLE STUDY

Encouraged by Sure Salvation

1 John 3:21-24; 5:1-5, 9-13, 18-19

By Mo Baker

The linchpin of our American judicial system rests upon four simple words: "Innocent until proven guilty." Under U.S. laws an individual is presumed innocent of wrongdoing until all facts of his case are heard and evidence is presented. Theoretically, the presence or absence of evidence against an individual forms the basis of establishing a verdict in court. The most credible types of evidence often used in contemporary courtrooms include eyewitnesses, fingerprints, and DNA, all of which can either vindicate or incriminate a suspect. Although Christianity can never be defined or defended in strict legal terms, is there any kind of evidence that reveals whether a person is a Christian? According to 1 John, there are several indicators that confirm the presence of Christ in an individual's life, each pro-

ducing encouragement for believers as they rest in the eternal security found in Christ. Let's examine some evidences for salvation as presented in 1 John.

I. OBEDIENCE TO GOD IS AN INDICATOR OF SALVATION (1 JOHN 3:21-22, 5:3B-4).

False teachers had infiltrated the church of the first century, causing doubts about salvation to arise among the believers. John wrote to produce confident assurance that if believers obeyed God, they could be certain of their eternal relationship with Christ. Obedience to God is crucial to the Christian life. The act of obeying God is not some divinely-imposed sentence of hardship, since "His commands are not burdensome" (1 Jn 5:3b). Rather, the true Christian will want to "do what pleases [God]" (1 Jn 3:22). John was not intending to

Baker

II. LOVE FOR GOD AND FELLOW BELIEVERS IS EVIDENCE OF SALVATION (1 JOHN 3:23B-24, 5:2-3A).

John offered additional verification of salvation for the children of God. To belong to God means to love the children of God. John had in mind the continuous, daily practice of acting in the best interest of fellow believers. Loving fellow believers can only occur if love for God is foremost in a Christian's life. The love for God as depicted by John points to a continuous, abiding relationship with the Father. John's thought on the presence of God's Spirit working in believers parallels closely Paul's

postulate an idea of salvation by works; on the contrary, his objective was to remind his audience that believers in God bring honor to God in the specific keeping of His commands and in spontaneous acts of selflessness. The result of obedience to God's commands is an overwhelming certainty of an abiding relationship with God.

theology in Romans about the Spirit agreeing with our spirits that we are God's children (Ro 8:16). When one possesses the Spirit of God, it is divine evidence of a personal relationship with God.

III. BELIEF IN THE SON OF GOD AUTHENTICATES SALVATION (1 JN 3:23A, 5:1-5, 10-13)

Contemporary philosophies, similar to the proto-Gnosticism of the first century, hold varying opinions as to the identity of Jesus. John's message to believers is that Jesus is both the Son of God and the Christ (Messiah). John even offered further confirmation of Jesus' identity by his reference to the Spirit, Jesus' baptism, and the crucifixion (1 Jn 5:6-9). John instructed his readers that to believe in Jesus is to place one's faith in all that Jesus is. Genuine believers will acknowledge the testimony of Scripture about Jesus. Refusal to accept what the Bible teaches concerning Jesus is the equivalent of rejecting the witness of God. To live by God's truth that Jesus is the Messiah means to possess Christ himself, which is both a present reality and a future expect-

tation. The gift of eternal life comes from God to those who have the Son. By John's own admission, he wrote 1 John so that believers could have certainty of eternal life.

IV. A LIFE CHANGED BY GOD ATTESTS TO SALVATION (1 JN 5:18-19).

Believers are made new in Jesus Christ (2 Co 5:20). John asserts that believers in Jesus are characterized by the inability to practice habitual, long-term sin, since they are under the protection of Jesus Christ, "the one born of God" (1 Jn 5:18). Consequently, the devil is powerless to overcome children of God. John concludes by expressing an intuitive knowledge shared by believers that we indeed are God's children.

The evidence John offers regarding salvation is compelling. Believers can be certain of eternal life! Unbelievers can receive Jesus and experience the same comforting assurance! Isn't that encouraging?

Baker is BSU Director at the University of Mississippi in Oxford.

EXPLORE THE BIBLE

Line Up with God's Purposes

2 Kings 11-12

By Mary Carraway

Human nature sometimes causes us to follow our purposes rather than God's. Persuaded by our own understanding, desires, or ambitions, we choose ways contrary to God's will. This lesson features two women, one who acted in opposition to God's purposes and one who courageously acted in line with God's purpose.

FACE CHALLENGES TO GOD'S PURPOSE (2 KINGS 11:1)

Our study moves from Israel to the southern kingdom of Judah. Ahaziah, the king of Judah, had been killed by Jehu creating an opportunity for his evil and ambitious mother, Athaliah. This daughter of Ahab and Jezebel had married Jehoram, king of Judah, in an effort to cement friendly relations between the two king-

doms. Arguably more evil than her mother, she established Baal worship in Judah, usurped the throne, pulled down part of the temple in Jerusalem, and slaughtered the descendants of David.

At the death of Ahaziah, who reigned for only one year, Athaliah determined to take the throne of Judah for herself. To make this happen, she proceeded to annihilate all the royal and rightful heirs. These were the heirs of David to whom God had promised that his house and his kingdom would "endure forever before me" and through whom would ultimately come the promised Messiah (2 Samuel 7:12-16). Fueled by sinful self-interest, her ruthless purge was in direct conflict with the purpose of God, until He intervened to redeem His promise of a Savior from the tribe of Judah.



Carraway

EMBRACE GOD'S PURPOSES (2 KINGS 11:2-3, 12)

God's plans may sometimes be challenged, but they are never thwarted. Jehosheba, wife of Jehoida, the high priest, dared to rescue the one-year-old Joash, son of Ahaziah, her brother, and last surviving heir to the throne of David. She took him from the royal princes who were about to be murdered and hid him in the Temple, one of the last places ardent Baalists would look for him.

Six years later by means of a plot carefully planned by Jehoida and carried out by the military and temple guard, Joash was brought out, crowned, anointed, and proclaimed king. The assembled crowd enthusiastically accepted him. God's promise to David held true. Jehoida who with courage and commitment acted in line with God's purpose influenced others to do so as well. Our actions may have a far-reaching influence when we embrace God's purposes and act accordingly.

FULFILL GOD'S PURPOSE (2 KINGS 11:15-20)

When Athaliah heard the noise of celebration, she went to the temple and saw little Joash standing by the pillar at the eastern gate, the customary place for the king. The queen immediately understood what had happened. She tore her robes shouting "Treason!" Athaliah was the real traitor. Having been on the throne of Judah for six years, the only woman ever, she was not a blood descendant of David; therefore, she had no legitimate claim. Jehoida ordered the commanders to arrest her. They led her out of the temple area, in respect and reverence for God, took her to the Horses' Entrance, and executed her. Her death was a political necessity, but it was also the just judgment of God on a wicked queen who opposed His plans.

Acting as advisor to the young Joash, Jehoida's task was threefold. He was to lead the people to renew the covenant, to renounce idolatry, and to restore the rightful heir to the throne.

First, Jehoida led the people in a covenant renewal. They agreed that they would be the

Lord's people and that God's anointed should be their king. The covenant, an agreement or contract between two parties, is an ancient tradition. The idea of a covenant is central to God's dealings with his people. Beginning with Noah (Genesis 9:9-17) and culminating with the New Covenant (Jeremiah 31:31), God's covenants reveal God's purposes.

To implement their renewed commitment to the covenant, Jehoida led the people to tear down the temple of Baal and kill Mattan, the priest of Baal. One step remained. The new king was taken to the palace, the seat of the political government, and placed on the throne. Once again, a descendant of David reigned in Jerusalem. The people rejoiced, the city was quiet, and the Davidic covenant was intact because two people dared to follow God's purposes.

This lesson should encourage us to seek and to fulfill God's purposes for our lives and for our church.

Carraway is member of First Church, Wiggins.

Guidelines for submitting news and photographs

The Baptist Record is pleased to publish news and photographs of special events that take place in cooperating churches of the Mississippi Baptist Convention.

News submitted for publication in The Baptist Record must be either (a) typewritten, (b) neatly printed on 8 1/2 by 11-inch paper, or (c) neatly printed on standardized forms provided by the newspaper. All articles must be received in writing; no articles will be accepted over the telephone.

News may be submitted electronically to the address below, and must be contained in the message segment of an e-mail form. Due to increasing virus threats, no text attachments will be accepted. Photograph attachments are permissible.



Please make articles concise. Include the who, what, when, where details of the story, along with a contact person's address and telephone number.

Photographs may be color or black and white. Instant photos and digital printouts

are not reproducible. Digital photos may be used if submitted as a JPEG file via either (a) e-mail, (b) three-and-a-half inch floppy disk, or (c) CD. Photos must be clear, sharp, and well-lighted.

All news items are subject to editing,

and all photographs are subject to cropping. Photographs must depict people. No landscape-, building-, or object-only photographs will be printed. News items and/or photographs can be published one time only. Deadline for submitting news is one week prior to requested publication date.

Articles that are not date-sensitive will be published on a space-available basis. Requests to return photographs must be accompanied by a self-addressed, stamped envelope.

Submit news and photographs to The Baptist Record, P.O. Box 530, Jackson, MS 39205-0530. FAX: (601) 292-3330. E-mail: baptistrecord@mbcb.org.

THE VILLAGE VIEW



Dr. Rory Lee, Executive Director

P.O. Box 27

Clinton, MS 39060-0027

(601) 922-2242

e-mail: bcv1@misnet.com

www.baptistchildrensvillage.com

Gifts of Honor and Memory

A portion of **The Village View** is allocated each month to a list of Gifts of Honor and Memory. Many groups and individuals elect to pay tribute to others through this sensitive, meaningful, and helpful medium. This feature is hopefully designed to further honor, with taste and respect, those who are and have been special to our special friends.

JUNE 14 - 30, 2004 HONORS

Fathers at FBC-Richton
First Baptist Church, Richton
Rev. John P. Adcock
Burns Baptist Church
Howard Burns
Burns Baptist Church
Sandy Crook
Mr. & Mrs. Dale Stuart
Martin Finley
Steve Murphy's SSC-
N Columbia BC
Mr. Jimmy Gault
Dr. & Mrs. Linuel D. Jayroe
Mrs. Annie Laurie Gunter
Dr. & Mrs. Linuel D. Jayroe
Frank E. Harris
Ms. Susan Ward
Danny Hawkins
Burns Baptist Church
The Herringtons
Ms. Margaret C. Ashley
Dean Holleman
Ashley and Laura Lee
Walters
Laurie Holleman
Ashley and Laura Lee
Walters
Mrs. Erica W. Jayroe
Dr. & Mrs. Linuel D. Jayroe
Mrs. Laverna Jordan
Dr. & Mrs. Linuel D. Jayroe
Mr. & Mrs. David May
Dorcas SSC, FBC-
Starkville
Jason Moore
Burns Baptist Church
Edna Murray
Mr. & Mrs. Roger Lindsey
Mr. Robert Oakes
Dr. & Mrs. Linuel D. Jayroe
Dr. Linda J. Pepper
Dr. & Mrs. Linuel D. Jayroe
Elwood Pittman
Steve Murphy's SSC-
N Columbia BC
Mrs. Rosa B. Wade
Ms. Martha M. Wade
J. M. White
Mr. & Mrs. Johnny L. White

MEMORIALS

"Aunt Tressie"
Mrs. J. B. Lewis
Reba Cledith Abel
Frances Hamner
Mr. & Mrs. Glen King
Mrs. Thelma Allbritton
Ms. Hattie Mae Johnson
Mrs. Ladie Appleton
Mr. & Mrs. Terry Champion
Lamar Arthur

Douglas & Ann Moore
Mr. Marshall Foch Ballow
Mrs. Bee Fulham
Mr. & Mrs. Billy Mangold
Dr. John E. Barnes, Jr.
Mrs. Elizabeth C. Wilson
Mr. Paul David Batts
Mr. & Mrs. Dan W
Southernland
Wanda Belk
Philene & Stuart Allen
Mrs. Mabel E. McCool Bell
Dr. & Mrs. Linuel D. Jayroe
Mrs. Bobbie Berbard
Mr. M. E. Brewer
Floyd E. Bishop
The Robert Sullivan Family
Jim Boland
Mr. & Mrs. Tom W. Doolittle
Alice Boling
Jo & Jimmie Smithy

The Baptist Children's Village Cordially Invites You to a Reception Honoring

Dr. Rory Lee, Executive Director

Sunday, July 11, 2004
2:00 p.m.- 4:00 p.m.

The Reedy Acres Campus
Celebrating 20 Years of Ministry
1984-2004

217 CR 438
Water Valley, Mississippi

Durane Bollinger
Graeber Brothers Inc.
Al Britt
Ms. Sarah E. Jones
Nathan F. Brown
Ms. Betty Horton
George Burnett
Mr. & Mrs. Dan W.
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Diana & Michael Forrest
Mrs. Martha Burton
State Boulevard BC
Mr. & Mrs. Oscar Butler
Ashley and Laura Lee Walters
Woodrow Byars
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Ann Shirley Byrd
Ms. Lou Alice Glisson
Decatur B. Byrd

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South Crossroads BC-Iuka
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Mrs. Winfred Callender
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Mrs. Enos Parker
Sam Casey
Pine Burr Baptist Church
"Aunt Bertha" Childers
Mrs. Vangie Fields
Mrs. Ophelia Cooper
T.E.L. SSC-
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Horace Courtney
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Kristy Dixon
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Lipscomb
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Mr. & Mrs. Joel Hale
Mrs. Ada Hardin
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Bruton
James Hardy
Eloise Crossley SSC,
FBC-Columbus
Mr. Roy Harrell

The Baptist Children's Village Cordially Invites You to a Reception Honoring

Dr. Rory Lee, Executive Director

Sunday, July 18, 2004
2:00 p.m.- 4:00 p.m.

Deanash Campus
80 Seller Street
Wiggins, Mississippi

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Jerome Harrington
Glenda & Jerry Fry
Vernon W. Hayes
Mr. & Mrs. Grady H.
Jones
Billy Harrington
Ms. Margaret C. Ashley
Rev. John P. Hill
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Mrs. Jeanette Hodges
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Mrs. Thomas (Adrene)
Hollingsworth
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Shepherd
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Mr. & Mrs. C. C. Crouch
Gene Holmes
Mr. & Mrs. Harold
Settlemyre
Mr. & Mrs. Edwin C.
Williams
Joe Horton, Sr.
Ms. Betty Horton
Mrs. Gertrude Jarrett
VFW SSC, Algoma BC-
Algoma
Jack Jenkins
Frances Hamner
Mr. & Mrs. Glen King
James Joiner
Mr. & Mrs. Ernest L.
Scruggs
Ina Bailey Jones
Mr. & Mrs. C. B. Sledge
Mary Ellen Jones
Mr. & Mrs. Balfour
Lipscomb
Mrs. Sue Jones
Mrs. Virginia C. Quarles
Charles S. Jordan, Jr.
Golden Circle SSC, FBC-
Columbia
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Howard Justice
First Baptist Church
Mr. John Wesley Kendall
Mr. & Mrs. Morgan
Gulledge
Melba Kendrick
Mr. Sherrell R. Sturdivant
Mrs. Ann Kimbrell
Mr. & Mrs. Floyd E.
Fuqua
Mr. & Mrs. Robert J.
Glaze
Mrs. Violet F. Taylor
Gerald Kinsley
Mr. & Mrs. Wallace A.
Clay
Ethel Kluener
Taylor BC - Taylor
Tommie Lacerfield
Lyndell W. Hale
Father of Mrs. Kathy Lang
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Mr. John B. Higdon
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Magnolia Guaranty Life Ins.
Mrs. Robert E. Abraham
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The Barry Patch Inc.

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American Legion Aux.
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Greener
Ms. Barbara F. Hederman
Gary & Edwina Jones
Mr. & Mrs. Robert
Edward Lee
Mr. & Mrs. James O.
Patterson
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& Blake Peterson
Mr. Billy Price
Mr. & Mrs. Dusty Rhodes
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Dr. Marion Sephton
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Mrs. Martha Hederman
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Mr. & Mrs. Roger
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Kathryn Bass Moody SSC
- FBC-Poplarville
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Mr. Michael L. May
Ora Mae McAlpin
Ruth Bible Class, FBC-
Magee
Sam McClinton
Gary & Vera Beech
T. J. & Irma K. Frierson
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Ms. Vivian S. Smith
Glenda & Jerry Fry
Charles McDonald
Ms. Julia Mullins
Mrs. Florence McGee
Mr. & Mrs. Dennis L.
McPhail
Lillian Hayward, Perry
Anne & Ragan
Mrs. Neven McGehee
Mr. Melvin A. Luter
James Elliott McMullan
Mrs. Ruby Jean Kennedy
Dr. & Mrs. Fred E. Tatum
Myra Meltzer
Gary & Vera Beech
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Brooke, Taylor &
Jordan Stark
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Howell
Earl Pigg
Pleasant Hill Baptist
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Stephens
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Ms. Ethel D. Fulford
Mr. Elmer Putnam
Mr. & Mrs. Dale Vickers
C. Hoocher Quick
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Mrs. Moak "Pinkie" Rawls
The Sweetwater Piddlers
Ms. Maude Kelly Raybon
Mrs. Bal Mobley
Mrs. Ina Reed
Mr. & Mrs. Allen W. Clark II
Miriam "Sister" Reynolds
Mr. & Mrs. Herman L.
Dungan Jr.
Mr. & Mrs. Jay Sylvester
Halle Robb
Grandparents' SSC, Mt.
Vernon BC
Brian Robinson
Mr. & Mrs. James M.
Enzman
Mrs. Patsy (Pat) Rock
Mr. & Mrs. T. J. Tucker
Elwood Rotenbury
Mr. & Mrs. Ernest L. Scruggs
Will Russell
Taylor BC - Taylor
Mrs. Ruby Lyn Sanders
Kathryn Bass Moody SSC
- FBC Poplarville
Mr. Scott
Mr. & Mrs. Floyd E. Fuqua
Mr. William W. "Bo" Shepherd
Dr. & Mrs. Linuel D. Jayroe
Mrs. Lee Audis Jayroe
Mrs. Chris Shows
Mr. R. B. Shows

Ralph Sims
Al & Cindy Ray
Paul Slawson
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Mable Stanell
Mrs. Irene Lofton Brister
Billy Stegall
Mr. & Mrs. George
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Lawson Stephens
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Mr. & Mrs. Jimmy Bruton
Gordan Tabor
Eloise Crossley SSC-
FBC Columbus
Woodrow Tadlock
Ms. Betty Horton
Eugene Taylor, Sr.
Ms. Betty Horton
Mr. Richard N. Thomas
Mr. & Mrs. W. K. Magee
Mr. Richard W. Thomas
Tommy & Betty Caraway
Davis
Glenda Sue Tucker
Mrs. David G. Fortenberry
Durwood Vance
Mrs. Ruby Jean Kennedy
Mr. Waldo Vandevender
Clayton Bell
Peggy McKie-Bell
Mr. & Mrs. Bob Palmer
Brad Vinson
Mr. & Mrs. Ralph Kolb
Mrs. Ann Wade
Ms. Betty Horton
Mr. Thomas Ray Waller
George & Ann Burton
Gloria Wells
Hope Baptist Church
J. A. Wells
Mr. & Mrs. Garion Tavenner
Jessie Wheat
Gary & Vera Beech
T. J. & Irma K. Frierson
Mrs. White
Ms. Maggie L. Mahaffey
Ms. Edith White
Mr. & Mrs. Billy Mangold
Mrs. Mildred Whitfield
Mr. Tim Carrigan
William Wilcher
Branch Baptist Church
Mr. Rex Williamson
The Family of John &
Helen Wright
Sharon Rawls Wilkins
Mr. & Mrs. James Crosby
J. L. Williams
Mr. & Mrs. Dan W.
Southernland
Johnny Williams
Beverly Sparkman
A. P. Williams
Allen D. Williams
Mrs. Linda Williams
Central Grove Baptist Choir
Mrs. Sandra Osborne
Mr. & Mrs. T. J. Tucker
Martha Wilson
Mr. & Mrs. E. C. Harris
Sam Wimberley
Bobby & Joan Green
Mr. Everett Wright
Harold Herman
S.M., Bobby & Sarah M.
Morris

BCV Alumni Reunion

The Baptist Children's Village
is hosting the
Biannual BCV Alumni Reunion
July 9th & 10th.
Festivities will begin Friday
evening with dinner and a southern
gospel concert by The Next Generation.
Then on Saturday morning there will
be a performance by
Rev. James "Jimmy" Smith, Humorist
& Magician followed by lunch.
Child care is available upon request.

To register or for more information
please contact Chrystelle Thames
at (601) 922-2242 or e-mail at
cthames@baptistchildrensvillage.com

JUST FOR THE RECORD

Johnny Beaver celebrated the first anniversary of his pastorate at Calvary Church, Pascagoula, June 6. Pictured are Beaver with his wife Candie and children, Sam and Sydney.



The Beaver Family

Calvary Church, Greenwood, honored their mothers May 9. Pictured (front) is the oldest mother Mary Braswell, (from left, back) the youngest mother

with the most children present Denise Young, the oldest mother with the most children present Mary Virginia Jordan, and the youngest mother Sarah Jordan Nobles.

Calvary Church, Greenwood, held parent/child dedication May 9. Pictured (from left) are Sarah Nobles with Josh, Jeremy and Haley Storey with Chloe, and Mike and Marla McLellan with Mack.

Graduate recognition was held May 23 at Calvary Church, Greenwood. Pictured (from left) are Sarah Nobles, Suzanne Muir, Chris Overbey, Patrick McCullough, Stephanie Griffin, and Wayne Kimbrough.



Calvary Church Graduates, Greenwood



Calvary Church Parent/Child Dedication, Greenwood



Arlington Heights Church ESL Students, Pascagoula

Arlington Heights Church, Pascagoula, completed its fifth year of ESL classes May 19. Classes were held Wednesday evenings for two hours with the group divided into 4 levels. Pictured are the students and the workers (from left) Joan Rutland, Ann Holland, Socorro Leos, Ginger Vervaeke, Mary Alice Ditsworth, and Patsy Halzborn.

The Evansville Senior Women's Group and CIA of Coldwater had a progressive luncheon to celebrate Mother's Day May 15. The CIA served deserts and drinks to their adopted grandmothers. They gave them flowers and magnets they had made.



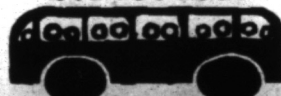
Arlington Heights Church ESL Teachers, Pascagoula



Evansville Church Senior Women and CIA, Coldwater

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Calvary Church Mother's Day Recognition, Greenwood

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A GROWING SOUTHERN BAPTIST Church with blended worship in Northeast Alabama seeks Minister of music and education. Duties to include leading worship, adult and children's choirs, and oversight of adult and preschool education. White Springs Baptist Church, 4411 Rainbow Drive, Rainbow City, AL 35906. Fax resumes to (256) 442-2771 or email to wsbc@microxl.com.

CHURCH PEW UPHOLSTERY, free estimates. Davis Upholstery, Quitman, Miss., phone (601) 776-6617.

BAYOU VIEW BAPTIST CHURCH IN Gulfport, Miss., is now accepting resumes for a bi-vocational music minister. Send to Bayou View Baptist Church, personnel committee, 4709 Chamberlain Ave., Gulfport, MS 39507.

UNIVERSITY BAPTIST CHURCH, 3200 Arlington Loop, Hattiesburg, Miss., has opening for organist to play pipe organ for Sunday morning worship. Also, for Wednesday night choir

rehearsal, soloist/instrumentalist rehearsals, wedding and funeral (paid by person requesting services). Send resume/letter of intent to church.

SPRINGDALE BAPTIST CHURCH IN Attala Baptist Association is seeking a part-time minister of music and youth. Send resume to personnel committee, Springdale Baptist Church, 28314 Attala Hwy. 19, West, MS 39205.